Protective devices developed by DRDO for meeting nuclear threat

771. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the protective devices developed by DRDO to meet the nuclear threat;

(b) whether these protective devices have been made available for public use to provide a cover against the danger from the nuclear emission; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed detection and protection devices against Nuclear fallout. The items are Integrated Filed Shelter, Radiation Detection Systems like Radio Photo Luminescent Dosimeter, Portable Dose Rate Meter and Gamma Flash Sensor. These items are being productionised by trade for Services and can be obtained by Public from the trade.

Engagement of private sector for manufacturing field shelters designed by DRDO

772. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:
DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has engaged private sector for manufacture of filed shelters designed by Defence Reserach and Development Organisation to protect against nuclear, biological and chemical agents;

(b) if so, whether these shelters have been supplied to armed forces;

(c) if so, whether such shelters are also being manufactured for civilian population in border areas; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. Defence Research and Development Organisation has designed

and developed an Integrated Field Shelter, which is productionised by a private agency in the trade.

(b) Ten number of Field Shelters have been supplied to the Army.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Field Shelter is capable of providing protection to 30 persons and is modular in construction. It has all the facilities for 96 hours stay and provides protection to personnel against nuclear fall out and ingress of chemical and biological agents.

Casualties in mine blasts and incidents related to Operation Parakram

773. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):
DR. AKHILESH DAS:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in another mine blast on 2nd May, 2002, some 60 kms. from Surat Garh, at least 7 army personnel were killed and four seriously injured;

(b) if so, the total number of casualties suffered in mine blasts and connected incidents, related to Operation Parakram; and

(c) the precautions taken against such blasts and mishaps and the main reasons for such accidents, found as a result of inquiries and otherwise?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) There was an accident on 2nd May, 2002 when some unserviceable/ defective mines exploded while being transported to the Army Field Firing Ranges at Mahajan. In this accident, seven army personnel were killed and four were injured.

(b) Amongst the casualties incurred during Op PARAKRAM till date, 73 persons (60 army & 13 civilians) have been killed and 216 (132 army and 84 civilians) have been injured due to mine blasts and related accidents.

(c) The reasons for the mine accidents are human error, defective mines and fuzes, stray cattle entering into the minefields, adverse/extreme vagaries of climate, and bad terrain.